Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1.   (currently amended) A method for synchronizing multimedia data having at least audio and text sequences, comprising:

assigning a different number to each of a plurality of words in the text sequence, each number uniquely identifying a particular word;

dividing the audio sequence into a plurality of equally-sized audio data groups;

~~synchronizing~~ matching each audio data group of said plurality of audio data groups to a nearest time mark within a discrete series of time marks ~~spaced according to~~ separated by a predefined ~~temporal arrangement~~ time period; and

associating each audio data group to a number of a word in the text sequence, the word corresponding to audio content contained within the associated audio data group.

2.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the size of each of said audio data groups is a multiple of the ~~spacing of the series of time marks~~ predefined time period.

3.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~spacing of the time marks~~ <u>predefined time period</u> is similar in size as that of each of said plurality of <u>equally-sized</u> audio data groups.

4.   (currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said associating each audio data group includes associating said group to a number not used by any word in the text sequence when the audio content size is larger than the size of a current audio data group or when ~~the~~ a gap exists in the text sequence associated with the current audio data group.

5.   (original) The method of claim 4, wherein said number includes zero.

6.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the size of each of said audio data groups is 100 milliseconds.

7.   (currently amended) A method for synchronizing a text sequence with an audio sequence, comprising:

assigning a different number to each of a plurality of words in the text sequence<u>, each number uniquely identifying a particular word</u>;

arranging the audio sequence into a plurality of <u>equally-sized</u> audio data groups;

~~synchronizing~~ <u>matching</u> a current audio data group of said plurality of audio data groups to a nearest time mark within a <u>discrete</u> series of time marks ~~spaced according to~~ <u>separated by</u> a predefined ~~temporal arrangement~~ <u>time period</u>;

associating said current audio data group to a number of a word in the text sequence, the word corresponding to audio content contained within the associated audio data group; and

packetizing said plurality of audio data groups along with the associated word numbers.

8.   (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said packetizing includes sequentially packing said plurality of audio data groups and said associated word numbers into at least one packet.

9.   (original) The method of claim 8, wherein a first packet of said at least one packet also includes the text sequence.

10.   (currently amended) A computer readable medium containing executable instructions which, when executed in a processing system, causes the system to perform multimedia data synchronization, comprising:

assigning a different number to each of a plurality of words in the text sequence, each number uniquely identifying a particular word;

dividing the audio sequence into a plurality of equally-sized audio data groups;

synchronizing matching each audio data group of said plurality of audio data groups to a nearest time mark within a discrete series of time marks spaced according to separated by a predefined temporal arrangement time period; and

associating each audio data group to a number of a word in the text

sequence, the word corresponding to audio content contained within the associated

audio data group.

11.   (original) The computer readable medium of claim 10, further

comprising:

packetizing said plurality of audio data groups along with associated word

numbers.

12.   (currently amended) A multimedia data synchronization system,

comprising:

means for assigning a different number to each of a plurality of words in a

text sequence, each number uniquely identifying a particular word;

means for dividing audio data into a plurality of equally-sized audio data

groups;

means for synchronizing matching a current audio data group of at least one

audio data group to a nearest time mark within a discrete series of time marks

spaced according to separated by a predefined temporal arrangement time period;

and

means for associating said current audio data group to a number of a word in

the text sequence corresponding to audio content contained within said current

audio data group.

13.   (original) The system of claim 12, further comprising:

means for packetizing said plurality of audio data groups along with associated word numbers.

14.   (currently amended) A multimedia system, comprising:

a processor to divide audio data into a plurality of ~~equally-sized~~ audio data groups, said processor configured to ~~synchronize~~ match a current audio data group of said plurality of audio data groups to a nearest time mark within a discrete series of time marks ~~spaced-according-to~~ separated by a predefined ~~temporal-arrangement~~ time period; and

a correlator to associate said current audio data group to an assigned number of a word in text data, the word corresponding to audio content contained within said current audio data group.

15.   (original) The system of claim 14, further comprising:

an encoder to pack said plurality of audio data groups along with associated word numbers into a plurality of data packets.

16.   (original) The system of claim 15, wherein a first packet of said plurality of data packets includes the text data.

17.   (original) The system of claim 15, further comprising:

a transmitter to transmit said plurality of data packets to a destination node; and

a receiver to receive said plurality of data packets from a source node.

18.   (original) The system of claim 17, further comprising:

a decoder to unpack said plurality of audio data groups along with associated word numbers, said decoder providing said plurality of audio data groups to a processor in the destination node, such that said decoder arranges each of said plurality of audio data groups to be synchronized to a word in the text data.

19.-23.   (canceled)

24.   (previously presented) The method as in claim 1 wherein the numbers assigned to the plurality of words in the text sequence are integers.

25.   (previously presented) The method as in claim 7 wherein the numbers assigned to the plurality of words in the text sequence are integers.

26.   (previously presented) The computer readable medium as in claim 10 wherein the numbers assigned to the plurality of words in the text sequence are integers.

27.   (previously presented) The system as in claim 12 wherein the numbers assigned to the plurality of words in the text sequence are integers.

28.   (previously presented) The system as in claim 14 wherein the numbers assigned to the plurality of words in the text sequence are integers.